

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 20 are currently pending in the application.

This amendment is in response to the Office Action of April 7, 2004.

Double Patenting Rejection Based on U.S. Patent 6,662,993, U.S. Patent 6,464,123, U.S. Patent 6,305,593, U.S. Patent 6,290,116, U.S. Patent 5,673,845, U.S. patent 5,647,528

Claims 1 through 20 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 through 20 of U.S. Patent 6,662,993.

Claims 1 through 20 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 through 20 of U.S. Patent 6,464,123.

Claims 1 through 9 and 11 through 20 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 through 4, 6 through 8, 9 through 11 and 13 through 15 of U.S. Patent 6,305,593.

Claims 1 through 20 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 through 36 of U.S. Patent 6,290,116.

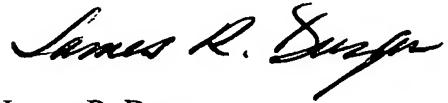
Claims 1 through 9 and 11 through 20 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 43 through 46, 48, 49, 51 through 53, 64 through 67, 69, 70, 72 through 74 and 76 through 79 of U.S. Patent 5,673,845.

Claims 1 through 20 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 3 through 5, 7, 8, 10, 13 through 28, 30, 31, 33, 34, 36 through 39, 41 and 42 of U.S. Patent 5,647,528.

In order to avoid further expenses and time delay, Applicants elect to expedite the prosecution of the present application by filing Terminal Disclaimers to obviate the double patenting rejections in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.321 (b) and (c). Applicants' filing of the Terminal Disclaimers should not be construed as acquiescence of the Examiner's double patenting or obviousness-type double patenting rejections. Attached are the Terminal Disclaimers and accompanying fee.

Applicants request the allowance of claims 1 through 20 and the case passed for issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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